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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jose Lizardi et al.

Serial No.: 10/601,479

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Filed : June 23, 2003

Examiner: Jessica R. Baxter

For : TISSUE GRASPER/SUTURE PASSER INSTRUMENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

June 19, 2006

(Date of Deposit)

E. Richard Skula

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

/E. Richard Skula, Reg. No. 31,061/

(Signature)

June 19, 2006

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of February 22, 2006. The period for response has been extended by one (1) month to June 22, 2006 by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time.

Listing of the Claims. A listing of the claims begins on page 2 of this paper. None of the claims has been amended.

Remarks/Arguments. Remark/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.